

**Table 398.—Average 8th-grade science scores<sup>1</sup> by content areas, and average time spent studying out of school, by country: 1994–95**

Country	Average percent correct by content area						Distribution of daily out-of-school study time in all subjects, with mean science scores							
	Overall science scores	Earth science	Life science	Physics	Chemistry	Environmental issues and the nature of science	Less than 1 hour		At least 1, but less than 2 hours		2 to 3 hours		More than 3 hours	
							Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>International average percent correct .....</b>	<b>56 (0.1)</b>	<b>55 (0.1)</b>	<b>59 (0.1)</b>	<b>55 (0.1)</b>	<b>51 (0.2)</b>	<b>53 (0.2)</b>	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Australia <sup>2</sup> .....	60 (0.7)	57 (0.8)	63 (0.8)	60 (0.7)	54 (0.9)	62 (1.0)	15 (0.9)	505 (6.9)	46 (1.0)	556 (4.1)	22 (0.6)	557 (4.9)	17 (0.7)	546 (5.0)
Austria <sup>2</sup> .....	61 (0.7)	62 (0.8)	65 (0.7)	62 (0.7)	58 (1.1)	55 (0.9)	9 (0.8)	551 (9.9)	46 (1.3)	563 (4.8)	21 (0.9)	561 (5.0)	24 (1.2)	553 (4.8)
Belgium (Flemish) .....	60 (1.1)	62 (1.2)	64 (1.1)	61 (1.1)	51 (1.3)	58 (1.5)	2 (0.4)	— —	25 (1.3)	545 (5.0)	28 (1.1)	562 (5.9)	45 (1.6)	547 (3.6)
Belgium (French) <sup>2</sup> .....	50 (0.7)	50 (0.9)	55 (0.9)	51 (0.7)	41 (0.8)	46 (1.0)	7 (0.8)	428 (6.9)	32 (1.0)	481 (4.7)	21 (1.3)	481 (4.5)	40 (1.5)	467 (4.0)
Bulgaria <sup>2</sup> .....	62 (1.0)	58 (1.2)	64 (1.0)	60 (1.0)	65 (1.7)	59 (1.5)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Canada .....	59 (0.5)	58 (0.6)	62 (0.6)	59 (0.4)	52 (0.7)	61 (0.7)	14 (1.2)	524 (6.1)	47 (1.1)	541 (2.8)	18 (0.7)	531 (3.9)	21 (1.1)	517 (3.6)
Colombia <sup>2</sup> .....	39 (0.8)	37 (0.8)	44 (0.9)	37 (0.8)	32 (1.0)	40 (1.1)	2 (0.4)	— —	17 (1.1)	421 (5.3)	20 (1.2)	422 (4.9)	61 (1.9)	413 (5.8)
Cyprus .....	47 (0.4)	46 (0.6)	49 (0.5)	46 (0.4)	45 (0.6)	46 (0.8)	9 (0.5)	430 (7.0)	19 (0.7)	468 (4.4)	26 (0.8)	475 (3.4)	46 (0.9)	466 (2.9)
Czech Republic .....	64 (0.8)	63 (1.2)	69 (0.8)	64 (0.7)	60 (1.2)	59 (1.1)	13 (1.1)	558 (9.0)	57 (1.1)	579 (3.9)	17 (0.9)	582 (7.2)	13 (0.8)	560 (6.4)
Denmark <sup>2</sup> .....	51 (0.6)	49 (0.7)	56 (0.7)	53 (0.7)	41 (0.8)	47 (1.0)	39 (1.6)	494 (4.4)	39 (1.4)	479 (4.1)	13 (0.8)	459 (5.5)	9 (0.7)	457 (6.8)
England <sup>2</sup> .....	61 (0.6)	59 (0.8)	64 (0.8)	62 (0.6)	55 (0.8)	65 (1.0)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
France .....	54 (0.6)	55 (0.8)	56 (0.8)	54 (0.5)	47 (0.9)	53 (0.9)	8 (0.7)	481 (6.8)	33 (1.2)	497 (3.3)	28 (1.0)	506 (4.0)	31 (1.2)	499 (3.4)
Germany <sup>2</sup> .....	58 (1.0)	57 (1.0)	63 (1.1)	57 (1.0)	54 (1.3)	51 (1.3)	14 (1.1)	505 (8.2)	51 (1.2)	541 (4.6)	18 (1.0)	544 (7.0)	17 (0.9)	525 (6.5)
Greece <sup>2</sup> .....	52 (0.5)	49 (0.6)	54 (0.6)	53 (0.5)	51 (0.5)	51 (1.0)	6 (0.6)	473 (4.8)	14 (0.7)	497 (5.0)	21 (0.7)	500 (3.1)	59 (1.2)	502 (2.5)
Hong Kong .....	58 (1.0)	54 (1.0)	61 (1.0)	58 (0.9)	55 (1.0)	55 (1.3)	13 (1.0)	489 (7.3)	32 (0.9)	519 (4.7)	25 (0.9)	534 (4.8)	30 (1.1)	534 (5.2)
Hungary .....	61 (0.6)	60 (0.8)	65 (0.7)	60 (0.6)	60 (0.8)	53 (0.8)	4 (0.4)	519 (10.0)	33 (1.1)	553 (4.4)	22 (0.9)	557 (5.6)	41 (1.3)	557 (3.0)
Iceland .....	52 (0.9)	50 (1.2)	58 (1.0)	53 (0.9)	42 (0.8)	49 (1.0)	5 (1.0)	470 (8.7)	46 (1.7)	505 (5.6)	25 (1.3)	493 (4.5)	23 (1.4)	488 (7.5)
Iran, Islamic Republic .....	47 (0.6)	45 (0.6)	49 (0.6)	48 (0.7)	52 (0.8)	39 (1.1)	1 (0.2)	— —	5 (0.5)	476 (6.0)	12 (1.0)	479 (5.2)	82 (1.3)	471 (2.7)
Ireland .....	58 (0.9)	61 (1.0)	60 (1.1)	56 (0.8)	54 (1.0)	60 (1.1)	5 (0.6)	475 (9.0)	29 (1.0)	529 (5.4)	40 (1.1)	550 (4.7)	26 (1.2)	550 (4.9)
Israel <sup>2</sup> .....	57 (1.1)	55 (1.1)	61 (1.1)	57 (1.1)	53 (1.5)	52 (1.6)	5 (0.6)	532 (13.5)	36 (2.2)	555 (7.7)	26 (1.5)	523 (6.9)	33 (2.1)	505 (5.2)
Japan .....	65 (0.3)	61 (0.4)	71 (0.4)	67 (0.3)	61 (0.5)	60 (0.7)	13 (0.8)	551 (4.4)	39 (0.8)	573 (2.2)	20 (0.6)	572 (3.0)	28 (1.0)	577 (2.4)
Korea .....	66 (0.3)	63 (0.5)	70 (0.4)	65 (0.5)	63 (0.6)	64 (0.8)	15 (0.9)	544 (5.0)	32 (1.1)	564 (2.9)	25 (0.8)	562 (3.1)	29 (1.2)	581 (3.7)
Kuwait <sup>2</sup> .....	43 (0.9)	43 (1.0)	45 (1.1)	43 (0.7)	40 (1.5)	39 (1.3)	3 (0.6)	400 (10.4)	13 (1.5)	436 (7.8)	19 (1.3)	432 (7.1)	65 (1.8)	431 (3.4)
Latvia (Latvian-speaking schools) <sup>2</sup> .....	50 (0.6)	48 (0.8)	53 (0.7)	51 (0.7)	48 (0.8)	47 (1.0)	4 (0.5)	468 (8.5)	35 (1.1)	492 (4.1)	32 (1.2)	490 (4.1)	29 (1.2)	481 (3.0)
Lithuania <sup>2</sup> .....	49 (0.7)	46 (0.9)	52 (0.9)	51 (0.7)	48 (0.9)	40 (1.0)	5 (0.6)	457 (9.1)	39 (1.4)	484 (4.5)	28 (1.0)	483 (3.8)	28 (1.4)	472 (4.7)
Netherlands <sup>2</sup> .....	62 (1.0)	61 (1.4)	67 (1.4)	63 (0.9)	52 (0.9)	65 (1.6)	3 (0.9)	519 (17.1)	54 (1.7)	559 (6.1)	27 (1.7)	578 (5.4)	16 (0.8)	545 (5.7)
New Zealand .....	58 (0.8)	56 (0.9)	60 (1.0)	58 (0.7)	53 (1.1)	59 (1.2)	12 (0.9)	488 (7.6)	51 (1.2)	536 (4.6)	21 (1.0)	537 (5.7)	17 (0.9)	516 (5.7)
Norway .....	58 (0.4)	61 (0.6)	61 (0.5)	57 (0.4)	49 (0.6)	55 (0.8)	6 (0.5)	501 (7.3)	50 (1.2)	533 (2.5)	24 (0.9)	536 (3.4)	21 (0.9)	516 (3.7)
Portugal .....	50 (0.6)	50 (0.7)	53 (0.6)	48 (0.5)	50 (0.9)	45 (0.8)	3 (0.3)	465 (8.8)	41 (1.1)	488 (2.9)	18 (0.7)	478 (4.1)	38 (1.2)	474 (2.8)
Romania <sup>2</sup> .....	50 (0.8)	49 (1.0)	55 (1.0)	49 (0.8)	46 (1.0)	42 (1.0)	9 (0.7)	460 (11.7)	16 (1.0)	468 (7.0)	15 (0.7)	487 (5.7)	60 (1.6)	499 (5.2)
Russian Federation .....	58 (0.8)	58 (0.8)	62 (0.7)	57 (0.9)	57 (1.3)	50 (0.8)	4 (0.5)	511 (10.1)	33 (1.1)	542 (4.4)	25 (1.0)	538 (4.4)	38 (1.4)	543 (4.6)
Scotland <sup>2</sup> .....	55 (1.0)	52 (1.0)	57 (1.1)	57 (0.8)	51 (1.3)	57 (1.4)	17 (1.4)	470 (5.3)	54 (1.2)	526 (5.1)	17 (1.0)	537 (8.5)	12 (0.8)	532 (6.5)
Singapore .....	70 (1.0)	65 (1.1)	72 (1.0)	69 (0.8)	69 (1.2)	74 (1.1)	2 (0.3)	— —	7 (0.4)	604 (8.4)	13 (0.6)	617 (7.3)	78 (0.9)	607 (5.4)
Slovak Republic .....	59 (0.6)	60 (0.7)	60 (0.6)	61 (0.6)	57 (0.8)	53 (0.9)	6 (0.5)	551 (7.1)	46 (0.9)	552 (3.7)	25 (0.7)	541 (3.8)	23 (1.0)	536 (4.7)
Slovenia <sup>2</sup> .....	62 (0.5)	64 (0.7)	65 (0.6)	61 (0.6)	56 (0.9)	59 (0.9)	5 (0.5)	559 (9.2)	36 (1.0)	580 (3.5)	21 (0.8)	557 (3.2)	37 (1.1)	544 (3.3)
South Africa <sup>2</sup> .....	27 (1.3)	26 (1.1)	27 (1.3)	27 (1.4)	26 (1.4)	26 (1.3)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Spain .....	56 (0.4)	57 (0.5)	58 (0.5)	55 (0.4)	51 (0.7)	53 (0.6)	3 (0.4)	482 (7.9)	26 (1.0)	522 (2.8)	18 (0.9)	522 (3.5)	53 (1.3)	516 (2.2)
Sweden .....	59 (0.6)	62 (0.7)	63 (0.7)	57 (0.5)	56 (0.7)	52 (0.8)	7 (0.6)	520 (6.0)	55 (1.2)	544 (3.2)	17 (0.8)	539 (4.9)	21 (0.9)	523 (4.9)
Switzerland <sup>2</sup> .....	56 (0.5)	58 (0.6)	59 (0.6)	58 (0.5)	50 (0.7)	51 (0.8)	4 (0.3)	500 (8.3)	44 (1.2)	530 (3.1)	19 (0.8)	526 (6.2)	33 (1.1)	514 (3.5)
Thailand <sup>2</sup> .....	57 (0.9)	56 (1.0)	66 (0.9)	54 (0.7)	43 (1.2)	62 (1.1)	3 (0.3)	510 (8.8)	26 (1.0)	520 (4.0)	18 (0.7)	519 (4.3)	54 (1.5)	532 (4.1)
United States .....	58 (1.0)	58 (1.0)	63 (1.1)	56 (0.8)	53 (1.2)	61 (1.0)	17 (1.1)	507 (9.5)	42 (0.9)	548 (4.1)	17 (0.7)	541 (5.2)	24 (0.8)	533 (5.7)

—Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Data are for 8th grade or equivalent in most countries.

<sup>2</sup>Countries not meeting all International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement's sampling specifications.

NOTE: Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement, *Science Achievement in the Middle School Years: IEA's Third International Mathematics and Science Study*, 1997, by Albert E. Beaton et al. Copyright © 1996 Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA. (This table was prepared June 1997.)